Vol. V. Numb. 47.

THE OBSERVATOR.

Of the Taking of Menin. *Of the Siege of* Turin. *Of the Affairs of* Italy, *and Prince* Eugene. *The* Non-Conforming Miniſters *Vindicated from an Aſperſion. The* Country-man *Encounters the* Rehearſal. *A Vindication of King* William *and his Conduct.*

From Saturday Auguſt the 24th, to Wednesday Auguſt the 28th, 1706.

Country-m. MAſter, my Budget of News is not very large; ſome I have got, and ſuch as it is I give unto you.

Obſ. Prithee let us have it as it is, 'tis very Welcome.

Country-m. Maſter, the Town and Garriſon of *Menin* is Surrender'd, and is now in Poſſeſſion of the Duke of *Marlborough*'s Brave Fellows: The Governour and all his Men were at laſt *Bewitch'd*, like thoſe at *Oſtend*.

Obſ. Roger, that Governour is a Brave Man, made a good Defence, and tho' an Enemy, is worthy of Praiſe: He has been Faithful in his Truſt, wanted neither Courage nor Conduct in his Poſt, and has had the Honour to Defend a Town againſt the beſt Troops in the World much longer than could be expected, conſidering what Vigorous Attacks were at firſt made upon that Place.

And mentioning this Siege, we cannot omit taking Notice of that of *Turin*, where the Beſiegers have done Wonders, tho' hard preſs'd by a Numerous Army, no Body to relieve them, and the Fortifications of the Place not ſo regular as thoſe at *Menin*. 'Tis true, Prince *Eugene*, according to his wonted Diligence add Conduct, has puſh'd as fairly for the Relief of that Place, as could be expected from a General that wanted Reinforcements, that was out-Number'd, Diſadvantagiouſly Poſted, and expos'd to ſo many Hazards in his March.

The Eyes of *Europe* are fix'd upon *Turin*, well knowing that the Event of the Siege will in a manner Determine the Fate of *Savoy*. The Duke is already driven from Poſt to Pillow; his Family is gone for Protection to a *Petty-State*, and God knows what will become of his Dominions if *Turin* be loſt; that is now the beſt Spot of Ground he has left in *Savoy*, and I have great hopes he will hold it, and regain what he has loſt. For Pity it is a Prince ſo Firm in his Alliance, ſo Faithful in his Truſt, and one that has undergone ſuch Fatigues for the Common Good, ſhould ſuffer and loſe ſo much.

And here, *Country-man*, I cannot but take Notice of the various Diſpenſations of Providence, how the Great Governour of the Univerſe diſpoſes Humane Affairs contrary to and beyond Humane Expectation. We may deem the Acts of Providence Irregular and Unjuſt, becauſe our blinded Judgments are not capable of determining for what Wiſe Ends and Purpoſes theſe things come to paſs.

The Fate of the Electors of *Bavaria* and *Cologn* ſeems very Juſt; an Equitable Reward from Heaven for their *Perfidiouſneſs*; and who knows but God is now viſiting the Sins of the Fathers upon the Children of *Savoy*, for that vaſt ſtore of *Proteſtant* Blood by them ſpilt in the Vallies of *Piedmont* and *Lucerne*? And who knows but the preſent War in *Hungary* may, by Providence, be Succeſsful againſt the Empire on Account of the *Proteſtant* Blood formerly ſpilt in the *Palatinate*, and other Places in *Germany*? Blood ſeldom goes unpuniſh'd, I wiſh Princes would conſider it, even in ſaving the Life of one ſingle Murtherer.

But all good Men, whether *Church* or *Diſſenters*, ought to pray for the Duke of *Savoy*'s Succeſs. God may at the ſame time Puniſh the Family for the Sins of their Anceſtors, and uſe them as Inſtruments in his Hands to pull down a *Bloody Tyrant*, an *Oppreſſor* of his People. I ſpeak this, *Roger*, in way of Satisfaction to ſome that have accoſted me about the *Diſſenting Miniſters* Praying in their *Churches* for a Bleſſing on the Arms of the *Empire*, and thoſe of *Savoy*.

Says one, *I have heard the ſame Men, thoſe* Non-Conforming Miniſters, *earneſtly, in their Pulpits, pray that God would pour the Vials of his Wrath on the Heads of the* Emperour *and the Duke of* Savoy, *two great Deſtroyers of his People in the* Palatinate, *in the Vallies of* Piedmont *and* Lucerne; *and now they as earneſtly pray for the Succeſs of their Arms, and that God would be pleaſed to Bleſs them with Victory.*

This is no Contradiction, nor are theſe *Miniſters* alter'd in their Opinion, but the Circumſtances have wonderfully alter'd the Caſe.

The preſent Emperour of *Germany* is not that Prince which made ſuch Havock of the *Proteſtants*, nor is the Duke of *Savoy* that Duke which ſpilt ſo many Tuns of *Proteſtant* Blood in the Vallies. The preſent War is a War not founded on Pretences of *Religion*, but on the Foot of *Property*, and Claims of *Right*. We pray for the Emperour and the Duke as they are Members of the *Confederacy*, and ſo Conſequently we pray for our ſelves, as being Engag'd in the ſame Cauſe; the good Event of which will be as Advantagious to *England* as to the other Powers Engag'd with us in this War. In praying for Succeſs to the Armies of *Popiſh Powers*, we do not pray for Succeſs to the *Idolatry* and *Superſtition* of the *Church of Rome*; *Religion* is not the Quarrel; were it ſo, the *Popiſh Powers* would not *Confederate* one againſt another. I can ſee no Reaſon for this Scruple, and thoſe who advance it, at this time, can have no good meaning in it.

But this Clamour againſt the *Diſſenting Miniſters* being rais'd by *High-Church*, let me aſk thoſe Gentlemen, Why the *Church* does pray for the *Popiſh Powers*? Does not the *Queen*, the Head of the *Church*, the *Biſhops*, the Overſeers thereof, the *Miniſtry*, the *Nobility* and *Gentry*, All the Honeſt Men in the Nation Faſt and Pray, and offer

offer up their Thanksgivings to Heaven upon this Account?

'Tis true, the *Dissenters* are not call'd upon by the *Government* in a particular manner to Fast and Pray, and Offer up their Thanksgivings on the Days appointed by Authority for such Solemn Worship; but Her Majesties Publick Orders and Proclamations for such Service being directed to *All Her Loving Subjects*, of which the *Dissenters* are a Peculiar and Grateful Number of Men, they Heartily Joyn with the *Church* in this Pious and Solemn Act on the same Day as appointed by Authority, for which they have the Divine Appointment, as well as the Queens Authority and Example.

Roger, I'll conclude this Head with an Observation worthy Notice, and what by Experience I find true, *viz.* That *High-Church* is more Angry with the *Dissenters* for their Compliance with the *Government*, for their Conforming to the *State* and *Constitution* of *England*, than for their Dissenting from the *Church*; they are Angry to see them in the *Queens* and the *Nations Interest*; they are Angry that they Behave themselves with *Moderation* and *Temper* of *Mind*, and with a *Christian Patience* can bear the *Insults*, the *Calumnies* and *Reproaches* of the *Black-Guard* of *High-Church*, who are as much Enemies to the *Queen*, as to the *Dissenters*.—— Now, *Roger*, 'tis your Turn to Speak, to your Point.

Country-m. Very well, Master. Now will I set Up the *High-Church Game-Cock*, *Lesley*, cut my Oaken-Towel into a Cat-Stick, and knock him Down in a Trice. Master, 'tis my Business to maul the *Rehearser* in every Point; and tho' you and Mr. *Review* are fallen out, he and I are good Friends; and I'll rub down his *Irish-Jacket* to some Tune better than that of the *Irish Cronon*.

Stand up thou Monument of Brass, and tell me for what Reason thou dost quote the Words of Mr. *Review*, *Unless, as in King* Williams *Time, you wou'd expect the Armies shou'd Fight without their Pay, and the Ships go to Sea without Provisions.* And then he Comments and Says these Words, *This is a Terrible Imputation upon the Government and Conduct of the Prince.*

A while ago he at every Turn abus'd the *Review* and *Observator*, for Reflecting on the Duke of *Marlborough*; they could not speak one Word in Favour or Commendation of Prince *Eugene*, my Lord *Peterborough*, the Earl of *Gallway*, my Lord *Overkirk*, or any Body else, but he said 'twas a Reflection on the Duke of *Marlborough*.

Now, Master, he chang'd his Note, and turns the Tables upon Mr. *Review*; he has got King *William* on 'tother Side, and he's Reflected upon too; but I Remark by the way, he calls him *PRINCE*, that is, *PRINCE* of *ORANGE*, for the *Rehearser* never acknowledged him to be *KING* of *England*, no more than he does the Princess *Anne* of *Denmark* to be *Queen*, for he would take the Oaths to neither of them. And therefore I do Will and Require this Impudent *Libeller* to answer me this Question out of Hand, *viz.*

Whether he does, without any *Equivocation* or *Mental Reservation*, acknowledge Queen *ANNE* to be *Rightful* and *Lawful QUEEN* of these Realms, as well *De Jure* as *De Facto*, and that no other has any Legal Pretence whatsoever to the *Imperial Crown* of these Kingdoms? Here's a Question for him, Master, and if he don't answer it directly, he's a ----, and I'll Towel him and his Landlord the *Wharfinger*; he's grown Impudent, and nothing but the *Argumentum Baculinum* will convince him.

But to the Point, Master, I ever thought that Master *Review* was rather a *Bigot* to King *William* and His *Government*, than a *Reviler* and *Oppressor* of it, the Practice, the Writings of the Man will Demonstrate and Plead for him, that he never was an Enemy to King *William* and His *Government*.

Nor can I find any Fault with what he Quotes from Mr. *Review*, nor is it the least Reflection on the *Government* or *Conduct* of King *William*. That his Armies were Unpaid is certainly true; and *that* in that Reign Men should Fight at Land without Money is as great a Wonder as in *this* our Fleet should pretend to Fight the *French* without Powder and Shot.

Never did so Great, so Glorious, so Good a Prince as King *William* labour under such Difficulties of *State*. Reducing the Coin of the Kingdom in *that* Reign is near a Kin to Reducing the *Exorbitant Power* of *France* in *this*: There were great Funds rais'd, but our Money lay groaning in the *Exchequer* under the Weight of heavy Interest, what *Treachery*, what *Frauds* were then practic'd, as I find Written in your Memoirs of that Reign, which I hope some time or other will see the Light? But this I averr of King *William*, That no Prince ever made a better piece of Work with such sorry Tools.

I can't say our Ships went to Sea without Provisions, but the want of Money at that time was so great, that our Ships were put to Short-Allowance in the Channel, in spite of the most Fruitful Country in the Universe; a thing unknown in the Days of our Ancestors, and what I hope the Necessities of our Affairs will never bring us to again.

'Tis true, a great many sorry Fellows got Estates in the *Victualling* in that Reign; but did you ever then hear of such a Quantity of stinking *Beef* and *Pork*, as was not long since discover'd at *Cuckolds-Point*. There are seven Commissioners of the *Victualling* now, and but five then, and amongst 'em I can assure you not one that was Guilty of so much *Treachery* as letting *Ponti*'s Squadron escape into *Brest*.

Obs. Well, *Country-man*, I am not displeas'd with you for Vindicating Mr. *Review*; but prithee tell him that your Master desires a little of his *GOOD LAW* for keeping the Peace at *Elections* with Troops of Horse.

Advertisements.

WHereas it has been Falsely Reported by some Malicious Persons that the Author of this Paper is concern'd with the Printer of the same, in Re-Printing *Jure Divino* in Octavo, this is to satisfie all Persons that that Report is as Groundless and False as Malicious.

J. How.

Lately Publish'd

MAN's Treachery to Woman: Or, the great difference between Courtship and Wedlock. To which are added, 1. The Grand Mistake: Or, all Men Happy if they please, *&c.* 2. The Ladies Conversations: Or, the Secret Freedoms of the Female Sex. Containing, 1. A Dialogue between an Old Lady, who had Marry'd a Young Gentleman, and a Young Lady, who had Marry'd an Old Gentleman. 2. A Dialogue between Madam *Le Nantzy*, an Old Maid, a Smoker of *Tobacco*, and a great Lover of *Cold Tea*, and Madam *Manlove*, a Buxom Widow, who had lately Bury'd her Husband. 3. A Conference in a Coach between four City *Wives* on the Road to *Epsom*, shewing how valuable a Handsome Journey-Man, or an Amorous Apprentice is above a Fumbling Husband. 4. The *Vintner*'s Wife's Character of her Husband. 5. The *Apothecary*'s Wife's Character of her Husband. 6. The *Mercer*'s Wife's Character of her Husband. 7. The *Goldsmith*'s Wife's Character of her Husband. 8. The Penurious *Quaker*, or the High-Priz'd *Harlot*; a Song. 9. The Travelling *Tinker*, and the Country *Ale-Wife*, or the Lucky mending of the Leaky Copper: a Song. 10. The Loving *Grocer*, or the Merry Wedding, a Song. 11. The Disappointed *Taylor*, or Good Work done for nothing; a Song. 12. The Naked *Lover*, or the *Widow* well satisfy'd; a Story. 13. The Strenuous *Competitors*, or a Trial of Manhood to a bad purpose; a Story. 14. The Disappointed *Sisters*, or the two Maids made otherwise; a Story. 15. The three *Oxford* Rivals, or a Trial of Wit for a Rich Beautiful Widow; a Story. With variety of other Humours for the Diversion both of Town and Country. Price 1*s.* Sold by *J. How*, at the *Seven Stars*, in *Talbot-Court*, in *Grace Church-street*; and *John Morphew*, near *Stationers-Hall*.

FEmale Grievances Debated, in six Dialogues between two Young Ladies concerning LOVE and MARRIAGE, *viz.* 1. Proving that Women, as well as Men, are inclin'd to LOVE, and equally desirous of Propagating their kind. 2. Shewing what LOVE is; its Sorts and Power, and the difference between LOVE and LUST. 3. How to discern whether a Man or Woman be in LOVE. 4. Directions for Young Ladies Prudent Managing the Affairs of LOVE. 5. Of MARRIAGE: That it is the Duty of every Person to Marry, unless there be a Lawful Impediment. 6. The Unreasonableness and Injustice of Marrying for MONEY, and the great Misfortunes that frequently attend such as do. To which are added, Proposals for an Act to Enforce Marriage, and for Taxing such Batchelors as refuse to Marry. With the Danger of *Celibacy* to a Nation. Written by the Author of the *London-Spy*. Price 1*s.*

LAugh and be Fat: Or, an Antidote against Melancholly Containing, 1. Great Variety of Comical Intrigues and Stories, in Town and Country. 2. Poems on various Occasions. 3. Witty Epigrams and Whims. 4. Epitaphs Serious and Comical. 5. Pleasant Songs and Ballads. *Written by the most Ingenious Authors of the Age.* Price Bound 1*s.*

Both Sold by *J. How*, at the *Seven-Stars*, in *Talbot-Court*, in *Grace-Church-Street*.

SHort-Writing the most Easie, Exact, Lineal, and Speedy Method that hath ever been Obtained or Taught. Composed by *Theophilus Metcalfe*, Author and Professor of the said Art. The last Edition. The Copper Cuts having been newly Corrected, with a new Table for shortening of Words. Which Book is able to make the Practitioner perfect without a Teacher. As many Hundred in this City, and elsewhere, that are able to Write Sermons Word for Word, can from their own Experience testifie. A Young Man that lately lived in *Cornhill*, Learned so well by this Book, that he Wrote out all the Bible in this Character. Sold by *M. Hotham*, at the *Black-Boy*, on *London-Bridge*.

London, Printed for the Author, *John Tutchin*. 1706.